

ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY



ARKANSAS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS UP 6 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

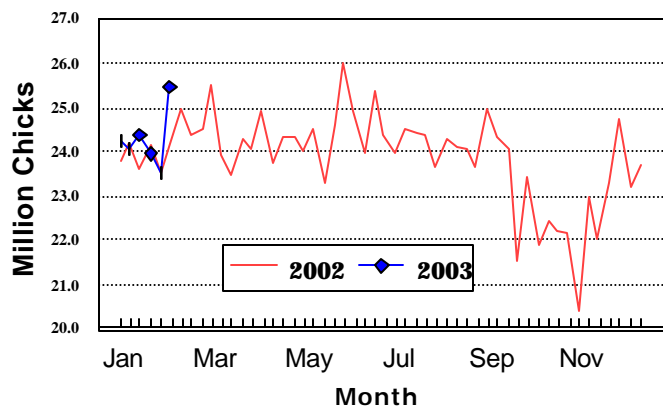
Broiler-type chicks placed for meat production in Arkansas was 25.0 million during the week ending February 8, 2003. Placements were up 6 percent from the comparable week in 2002, and up 8 percent from the previous week, and included 2.5 million chicks shipped in from other states. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through February 8, 2003 were 145.7 million, up 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.

The broiler-type chicks hatched for the week was 25.5 million, up 3 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, and up 1 percent from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 2.2 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 82.3 percent.

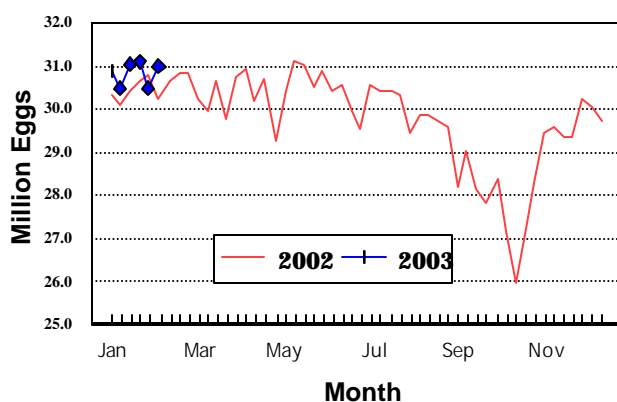
Arkansas hatcheries set 31.0 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending February 8, 2003, up 3 percent from the same period last year, and up 2 percent from the previous week.

Week Ending	NET PLACEMENTS			CHICKS HATCHED			EGGS SET		
	2002	2003	% Change	2002	2003	% Change	2002	2003	% Change
	1,000			1,000			1,000		
Jan. 4	23,827	24,244	102	25,194	24,836	99	30,326	30,873	102
Jan. 11	24,183	24,081	100	25,342	24,771	98	30,121	30,485	101
Jan. 18	23,617	24,397	103	25,087	24,693	98	30,421	31,023	102
Jan. 25	24,158	23,950	99	24,968	25,618	103	30,623	31,087	102
Feb. 1	23,546	23,524	100	24,583	25,325	103	30,806	30,468	99
Feb. 8	24,115	25,475	106	24,842	25,519	103	30,232	30,994	103

CHICKS PLACED IN ARKANSAS, 2002-2003



EGGS SET, 2002 - 2003



BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2003

STATE	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/	Week Ending						1/
	18-Jan	25-Jan	01-Feb	08-Feb	%	04-Jan	11-Jan	18-Jan	25-Jan	01-Feb	08-Feb	%
Alabama	27,578 *	27,449 *	27,755	26,987	92	21,322	21,069	20,992 *	21,492 *	21,231	21,390	98
ARKANSAS	31,023	31,087	30,468	30,994	103	24,244	24,081	24,397	23,950	23,524	25,475	106
Delaware	3,582	3,418	3,607	3,489	96	4,908	5,324	5,317	4,775	5,018	5,029	101
Florida	1,555	1,581	1,587	1,609	69	1,557	1,502	1,555	1,689	1,754	1,393	56
Georgia	30,888	31,330	31,175	30,864	97	24,577	24,206	24,952	24,948	25,094 *	25,327	99
Kentucky	6,382 *	6,403	6,516 *	6,429	105	5,180	5,392	5,092	5,254 *	5,566 *	5,315	93
Maryland	9,669	9,883	9,935	9,897	99	6,078	5,566	5,583	6,493	6,274	6,271	103
Mississippi	18,829	19,241	18,885	18,501	98	15,540	15,285	15,873	15,937	15,968	15,479	103
N. Carolina	18,320 *	18,099	18,167	17,938	93	14,491	14,309	14,091	14,290	14,262	14,439	101
Oklahoma	6,408	6,596	6,554	6,432	98	4,491	4,218	4,066	4,289	5,623	4,259	81
Pennsylvania	3,543	3,364 *	3,650	3,370	95	2,574	2,516	2,576	2,510 *	2,487	2,559	103
S. Carolina	4,792	4,823	4,946	4,820	104	4,105	3,589	4,341	4,100	4,209	4,054	110
Texas	14,509 *	14,809 *	14,729 *	14,417	95	11,915 *	11,637 *	11,770 *	12,193 *	12,276 *	11,905	103
Virginia	6,387	6,629	6,515	6,520	97	5,337	5,161	5,214	5,007	5,287	5,200	112
CALAMO,TN,WV	19,311	19,945 *	19,586 *	19,670	100	18,094	18,324	17,925	19,204 *	17,856 *	17,182	98
Total 2003	202,776 *	204,657 *	204,075 *	201,937		164,413 *	162,179 *	163,744 *	166,131 *	166,429 *	165,277	
Total 2002	205,220	206,876	208,754	208,199		169,020	168,883	168,359	167,400	164,318	165,373	
% Prev. Year	99	99	98	97		97	96	97	99	101	100	
Approximate Marketing Date 2003.....						22-Feb	01-Mar	08-Mar	15-Mar	22-Mar	29-Mar	

* Revised . 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES DOWN 3 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 202 million eggs during the week ending February 8, 2003. This was down 3 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 82 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED DOWN SLIGHTLY

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 165 million chicks for meat production during the week ending February 8, 2003. Placements were down slightly from the comparable week a year earlier. Cumulative placements from December 29, 2002 through February 8, 2003 were 988 million, down 2 percent from the same period a year earlier.